I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D. ϕ , 20231, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW **PATENT** JAN 1 5 2002 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEM Patent Application of : Group Art Unit: 1641 Mariko Miyashita et al. Conf. No.: 3194 Appln. No.: 09/420,719 Examiner: K. Padmanabhan RECEIVED

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TECH CENTER 1600/25 Filed: October 20, 1999 : Attorney Docket For: SAMPLE TREATING KIT AND SAMPLE : No. 10059-308 TREATING METHOD USING THE SAME FOR ANALYSIS WITH A BIOSENSOR : (P21541-01) **AMENDMENT** In response to the Office Action, mailed July 31, 2001 (Paper No. 11), please consider the following remarks and amendments. This amendment is timely filed on December 31, 2001, in view of the Petition for an extension of time for two months, up to and including December 31, 2001, enclosed herewith. Please amend the application as set forth below. In the Claims: Please cancel claims 11-18, without prejudice. Please add new claims 19-28 as set forth below. 19. (New) A sample solution treating instrument comprising: (a) a sample introducing part; (b) a control means for converting a sample solution to a condition for analysis by a biosensor that electrochemically measures a specific component in the sample solution; and (c) a sample releasing part;

wherein the instrument is adapted for use with a biosensor that electrochemically measures a specific

component in a sample solution, but the instrument is not physically coupled to the biosensor.